Celebrating North Craven Past and Present

This exhibition celebrates the wealth of fascinating material contained in a collection of local archives and the innovative projects which they have inspired.

The Archives
The archives (books, pamphlets, posters and photographs) were originally collected by a London based antiquarian bookseller, John Collins. He regularly visited North Craven on holiday and began to take an interest in local sales:

“...I recently succumbed to an inordinately expensive copy of poems, Tom Twisleton’s ‘Splinters struck from Winskill Rock’. I pretend that I bought it because it’s not in the British Museum catalogue ... But really I bought it because Winskill is just over our horizon as we wake up on holiday.”

‘Happy Hunting Ground’ The Times 1984

The museum recently bought over 250 items from his collection with the help of a grant from the Heritage Lottery Fund.

The Projects
Sue Mackay, Project Officer (also funded by the Lottery grant), contacted community groups in North Craven who were interested in looking at the archives. Some groups used the material to further their own work and some were inspired to start new projects.
This exhibition shows a selection of projects completed so far ... others are on-going and some have not even yet begun!

Please contact Sue if you would like to discuss the use of the collection for another community project.